

Kittitas Secondary School **Highly Capable Program (HiCap)**

Dear Parents of Kittitas Secondary Students;

The Kittitas School District offers opportunities for highly capable students in grades K-12 through a school-based program (HiCap). Highly capable students demonstrate exceptional ability, exceed grade level standards in literacy and/or math, demonstrate exceptional creativity, and possess strong motivation to excel. The purpose of the Highly Capable program is to meet the unique needs of these students. Highly Capable students need a program with differentiated instruction, peer association opportunities and challenging demands so that they may develop their potential.

The HiCap Program at Kittitas Secondary is designed so that:

- Students meet in grade level groups with the potential to combine grade levels.
- Students will meet for a one-two hours per week with their highly capable peers. Students also receive differentiated instruction in their classrooms.
- Students will work on project based learning and inquiry projects of interest.

The objectives for our KES HiCap Program are:

- Students will understand their own giftedness and cultivate, understand and respect the differences of others.
- Students will realize contributions that they can make to society, finding pleasure and satisfaction in sharing their gifts with others.
- Students will accept responsibility more consistently for their learning through investigation of more and different content areas at advance levels.
- Students will develop advanced skills in utilizing the creative and critical thinking processes.

Students who are highly capable are students who perform or show potential for performing at significantly advanced academic levels when compared to others of their age, experiences, or environments. Outstanding abilities are seen within students'

general intellectual aptitudes, specific academic abilities, and/or creative productivities within a specific domain. Learning characteristics of a highly capable student may possess, but is not limited to, the following characteristics:

- Capacity to learn with unusual depth of understanding, to retain what has been learned, and to transfer learning to new situations;
- Capacity and willingness to deal with increasing levels of abstraction and complexity earlier than most chronological peers;
- Creative ability to make unusual connections among ideas and concepts;
- Ability to learn quickly in their area(s) of intellectual strength; and
- Capacity for intense concentration and/or focus

Students who have already been identified as Highly Capable Students will continue in the program at KES. Parents may discontinue service at any time by contacting the child's teacher or the program coordinator.

If you would like to refer your child, please contact Joe Mohn, Highly Capable Teacher or Heather Burfeind, KSS Principal. If your child meets the qualifications, more information will be sent to you. Referrals will be accepted until **Feb. 1, 2019**.

Sincerely yours,

Joe Mohn

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